

THE
Union-Proverb :

VIZ.

If SKIDDAW has a *Cap*,
SCRUFFELL wots full well of *That*.

Setting forth,

- I. The *Necessity* of Uniting.
- II. The good *Consequences* of Uniting.
- III. The happy UNION of *England* and *Scotland*,

In Case of a *Foreign Invasion*.

Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum.

L O N D O N:

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To the TRUE

British Reader.

WITH Submission,
*I think I need say
little more here, by Way of
Preface; but that this is
only a Proverb at large, or
rather a Provincial Saying
in the strictest Acceptation:
And so I might immediate-
ly conclude with Mr. RAY's
excellent Remark upon't;*
A 2 *which*

To the Reader.

which sets the dark Expression in a proper Light, both as to the Situation of Places, and the Signification of Words; with a short Hint also of its MORALITY, over and above, to this Effect.

“SKIDDAW and SCRUFFELL,
“are two Neighbour-Hills,
“or high Mountains; the
“one in Cumberland in
“ENGLAND, the other in
“Anandale in SCOTLAND:
“And if the former happens
“at any Time to be
“capp'd with Clouds, or
“foggy Mists, it will not
“be long ere Rain, or the
“like,

To the Reader.

*“ like, falls on the latter.
“ It is also spoken of such,
“ who must expect to sym-
“ pathize in their Suffer-
“ ings, by Reason of the
“ Vicinity of their Habi-
“ tations.*

*But after all, finding,
upon second Thoughts, that
this Proverbial Canto had
more than a vulgar, or a
natural Sense in it ; more
than either bare Jingle,
or meer History and Geo-
graphy ; as it seems plainly
to touch upon the common
Advantages of two neigh-
bouring Kingdoms uniting,
where*

To the Reader.

*where the Safety of the One
wholly depends upon the
Welfare of the Other ;
and as it may also for cer-
tain be as well and hand-
somly apply'd to Civil Af-
fairs, in a right Understand-
ing between the good People
of different Nations, for
Fear of any Foreign, or
French Invasions, and other
external Calamities, as well
as intestine Troubles, or
inevitable Sufferings, either
in Point of Commerce, or
of War : Finding, I say,
that the Proverb, as it
couches an incomparable En-
tendre of SYMPATHIZING, or
having*

To the Reader.

having a true Fellow-Feeling of one another's Misfortunes, either at Home or Abroad, might amount to all THIS, at least, and answer, in some Measure, likewise for the Joint-Happiness of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND, lately united under the Name of GREAT BRITAIN; I have made bold to communicate it to the Publick, in some impartial, uprejudic'd, and innocent REFLEXIONS, after a more copious Manner, to divert the true Lovers of BRITISH UNION.

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Union-Proverb.

When SKIDDAW has a Cap,
SCRUFFELL wots full well of *That*.

Reflexions.

THIS does not argue, that, when it is *foul* or *fair Weather* in ENGLAND, it must needs always be *so* too in SCOTLAND of Course; and yet they are not so far *distant*, in Point of *Sun* and *Climate*, but that (generally speaking) the *Inhabitants* of the *One* are very sensible of the *good* or *bad Seasons*, which happen yearly in the *Other*: Infomuch, that *both Kingdoms* seem to *sympathize* in some Measure, either as to the *Blessings*, or the *Frowns* of HEAVEN in its *natural Influences* upon *Earth*. However, in particular, upon
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the *Borders of Either*, this PROVERB holds true, by common Observation, even from a *Fog* or a *Mist* upon SKIDDAW, to *rainy Weather* about SCRUFFEL; and so the *Clouds* on the *Scotch Side* also, are as good *Prognosticks* of sending *Wind* or *Wet* back again on the *English Coast*: Which first gave Occasion to the *ludicrous* Expression of a *CAP* on the *One Hill*, or a *BONNET* on the *Other*; threatening the like *Discharge* and *Disaster* of a *dull*, a *dirty*, or *dismal Day* in *either Country*, as it naturally *blows* without Exception upon *both*. But be it as it will, as to *that* Matter, though I believe it to be *truer*, than PARTRIDGE'S *Almanack* ever foretells of *Hail*, *Snow*, or *Rain*. It is not long since we had hardly any *dry Summers*, but what we dream'd of in *ENGLAND*; and then there was such a *Scarcity* of *Corn* in *SCOTLAND*, as indeed was next to a *DEARTH* in some late *bad Harvest-Years*. The *Sun* seem'd to be angry with us *both*, for some *Sins* we had committed, or some *Changes* of our own *creating*; as *JUPITER'S Farmer* could never thrive upon his own *Choice* of the *Weather*; for we cannot *command* the *Revolution* of *Seasons*: So that this verifies the *Proverb* to all *Intents* and *Purposes*, in the most *natural* and

and genuine Signification of the *Words*, to the very *Letter* on't.

But the main Stress and Purport of it lyes *higher* yet, than either of the *cloudy Mountains* in Distress of *Weather*, or in Labour of *Rain*: For, in a *political* Sense, it contains the kindest *Innuendo* for the *Wellfare*, and *Happiness* of both Kingdoms. It is an excellent Lecture of mutual *Friendship* on *either Side* of the *TWEED*. It ingenuously tell us what we are to *trust* to in *troublesome Times*, either of *Oppression* at Home, or of *Miscarriage*, *Affliction*, and *Misfortune* from Abroad. It is likewise a most *politick* and *prudent* Caution against *foreign Invasions*. It does not only, and *that pathetically* too, set forth the *Necessity* of the *two Kingdoms* UNITING heartily in all Cases of *Disaster*, or *Disturbance*; but also manifestly shews the *happy Consequences* of such an ENTIRE UNION, both in Point of *Government* and *Traffick*, as will be able to defeat the turbulent Designs of our *greatest Enemies*, either in Time of *Peace*, or of *War*. This is the main *Stock*, on which our *Common Hopes* ought to be *grafted*, of making GREAT BRITAIN *stourish* and *fructify*, in Spite of *French Blasts*, or *Cater-Pillars*.

'Tis natural for *neighbouring Countries* to be *apprehensive* of one another's *Fate*. There must needs be a *SYMPATHY* between People that are so *near ally'd*, that are under so many Obligations of *Royal Blood* and *Benevolence* to each other; besides the *Proximity* of Places, which are *near adjoining*, that a Man may almost as easily *piss* out of the *One* into the *Other*, as over a *Straw*. But however, I'm assur'd, that *two* may shake Hands in *each County*: Infomuch, that it cannot *thunder* in *This*, but it may be *heard* distinctly in *That*; and not without *Fear* and *Trembling* neither on the *other Side* of the *Water*, at such a *National Crack* of a surprizing *War*, as may disturb the *PEACE* of *both Kingdoms* at the same *Time*. I mean, the *Calamities* of the *One* must needs affect the *Other* in the most sensible *Part*, as well as in the most dismal *Effects*, if not timely prevented by an *unanimous* *Courage*, *Conduct*, *Kindness*, *mutual Love*, and *Assistance*. There cannot be a little *Uproar* or *Noise* in the *NORTH*, but we must presently hear on't, with both our *Ears*, in the *SOUTH*; and with *great Concern* too, for *Fear* of the worst; for *Fear* of involving *us* in the *same Misery*, or a farther *Mischief* of *mobbish Tumults* and *Insurrections*. In short, if the *FRENCH* should

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should invade SCOTLAND at any Time; who can be so stupid, as not to imagine, that it would be our Turn next, or that ENGLAND might repent of it at Leisure, without speedy Relief to vanquish the Common Foe, the Grand Enemy of both Countries? For the One is always likely to follow the Fate of the Other, in all Fortunes, good or bad; and in Times of Adversity too, as well as Prosperity.

What should hinder us then to become as good Friends as we ought to be in this regard of a reciprocal Obligation? And especially since the Vicinity of our Habitation equally demands of us to SYMPATHIZE in our Sufferings, our Dangers, or our Disappointments from Abroad? 'Tis true, we are a different People at Home, ENGLISH and SCOTCH; but more in Name, than in any thing else of Moment. We are not so very disagreeable in our Manners, Habit, Diet, Discipline, or Learning; but we may cotton well enough in these Respects, or come in Competition with one another for the Knowledge of State-Affairs, and not think the Comparison odious or unequal. As to the GENTRY, or better Sort, we are both well bred, well fed, well clad, well taught, and as well ap-
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pointed, in all other Regards, as any civiliz'd People in EUROPE. Our SPEECH differs a little indeed; but more in *Pronunciation* and *Dialect*, than in any *solid Sense* or *Significancy*: And the same *Objection* might as well be made against *Yorkshire-Language*, or *West-Country-Jargon*. But however, all's *safe* and *right* enough, so long as we do not *speak* FRENCH, nor turn *English* and *Scotch*, that is, *true* BRITISH, into *Gascoignade*, or *Dutch*, by Adoption. Besides, this can be no *Reason* for not UNITING in a *righteous Cause*; for TRUTH is the same in all *Lingua's*. We ought not to *stand off* neither upon *vulgar Prejudices*, *Shams* and *Bugbears*. These only frighten either *Children* or *Fools* from a good Design.

And farther yet, we have no Colour of Argument to be at *Variance* about popular *Fests*, *Scoffs*, or *Characters*. The *Rabble* is not to be minded in Matters of Importance. What and if the SCOTS are troubled with the *Itch* sometimes, why should we be afraid on't at a *Distance*? Or if the *Infection* should spread among us, where's the mighty *Harm* on't, when we have *Brimstone* and *Milk* enough in ENGLAND to cure the *Distemper* effectually? And besides, we had a great deal better have
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that too upon our Hands, than the FRENCH-POX, and the *Te-ne-scaiquoy* of a GALLICK-AGUE, or an *intermitting Fever* in the STATE. Moreover, on the contrary, we ENGLISH are as much afflicted with the *Scurvy*, as they are with the *Scrub*; and it is altogether as *catebng* too, either in temper of *Mind* or of *Body*, by our own *luxurious* and *licentious* way of *Living*. And so we are *both* but *equal* still in the Main, as to our *Natural Constitutions*. I would fain persuade my self, that we are equally *sober*, *temperate*, and *healthful*; but I'm afraid, if there be any *Disproportion* or *Inequality* in the Case, it is on our *Side* for the *Worse*, by *indulging* our Selves too much in *luscious Diet*, as well as by *drinking* to prodigious *Excesses*. As for the *Differences* of HABIT, they ought not to *seperate* us in the least; for it would look *ridiculous* for us to quarrel about *Fashions*, so long as they are not *A-la-mode du Paris*. Besides that, *Cloaths* do not make the *Man*, but *Manners*, according to WILLIAM of *Wickham*. Their *Wool* may not be so good as *ours*; but their *Mutton*, perhaps, may be better, and sweeter to the Tooth. However, a SCOTCH-PLAD may be as *warm* as a *Gayer-Coat*. And any Man of common Sense would sooner choose a good *Gray*, or a *Blue*

Blue BONNET for his Head, than a pair of Wooden-Shoes for his Feet. But, by the Way, perhaps, we are *jealous* and *afraid* of one another's growing too rich; and that's no *Argument* neither, in my Opinion, why we should not seriously enter into a perfect *League* of mutual Friendship. The *richer*, the better; the more peaceable and potent: For there is nothing so *troublesome* upon Earth as to live near *poor distressed Neighbours*; always *petitioning* for Relief, and *dunning* at our Doors for a DEBT that we justly *owe*, as charitable Christians to our *afflicted Brethren*. And there is no *End* neither of discharging this OBLIGATION, till they are in so good a Condition, as not to stand any longer in *Need* of our *Assistance*. All People are *quiet*, when their *Bellies are full*; and if the SCOTS do not love *Perk*, (which is only a vulgar Error) they may have *other Victuals* for their *Money*: But why should we grudge 'em their *Riches*, if they were only to *bear* their *Charges* up to LONDON, or to *pay* the *Expences* of their tedious *Journeys* back and forward, to serve their QUEEN and Country? So that, in short, upon the whole Matter, I can perceive no inveterate *Antipathy*, and no irreconcilable *Difference* between the *two Nations*, but what is merely *Chimerical*,

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merical, and vanishes into a *better Air*, upon the Name of UNION.

AN UNION, that would take away all invidious *Distinctions* ; a *lasting Union*, that would make us *One People* for ever beyond *Revolt*, upon a *right Foundation* ! 'Tis granted, *we* once unhappily *shook Hands* in a foul, false, and fatal *Iniquity* ; and we made a barbarous *Bargain* on't indeed, upon buying and selling the *Blood* of a ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Alas ! that abominable Fact ! HEROD and PONTIUS PILATE agreed again ! And why should we not as well *unite* now in a *good Cause*, and upon a far *better Account* ? It must be own'd, however, that we were formerly, always, at *Daggers-drawing* between our Selves, and *fell out* often into *Civil Wars* ; what with Heart-burnings, and Jealousies, and pretended Injuries on *both sides*, to blow the Coal. But it is high Time *now* to forget all *old done Deeds*, to lay aside our jarring *Animosities*, and to d'off our *publick Prejudices*, as well as *private Pisques* : Now, I say, when the PHILISTINS may be upon us, e're long, and *reconcile* us too late ; only like the BEAR in the *Fable*, which soon *united* two snarling *Dogs*, that could never *agree before*, 'till at last they *saw themselves* openly *attack'd* by an *avow'd*

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Enemy to them *both*, and were in danger also of being *worsted*. For, if the FRENCH should undertake a *Descent*, and *land* in either *Country* at this *Juncture*, and I cannot but repeat it upon the justest *Apprehensions* of publick Authority, it would be such an *Alarum* as would make us *both* look about us for *Unanimity*, and *Concord*: For tho' they could not *conquer*, they would endeavour to *divide* us; to *disunite* us; to *distract* us; to *impose* upon us, or to render us *irreconcilable* to our own Interest and Advantage, by holding a *treacherous Correspondence* with FRANCE.

But notwithstanding *this*, there's an *absolute Necessity* over and above, for ENGLAND and SCOTLAND's *uniting* in all human *Policy*; to make the *Britains* a rich and a flourishing People: *Maugre* the whole *Posse* of *Dunkirk*, *Red-kirk*, or any *KIRK*, but *that* of our *own Country*. It will easily be granted, that nothing can render a *Kingdom* more *powerful* and *safe*, than a perfect *UNION* in it self; for to be all of *one Mind*, and all of *a Piece*, fortifies us like a *Bulwark*, and strengthens us beyond *breaking*: But when *two Kingdoms* are so strickly *united*, they are still the *stronger*, and the less expos'd to the violent *Insults* of their *Enemies*, either by
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Sea or Land. However, on the other Hand, take 'em *single* or *separate*, wrangling within their own *Bowels*, rising up in Judgment against their own *Peace* or *Tranquility*; and they are as *unsafe* again, and as *weak* as SAMPSON without his *Hair*. To part the *one* from the *other*, would be like cutting off the *Locks* of the brave *Israelitish* (I had like to have said *British*) *Champion*, and betraying him to his *Adversaries*. Nothing but our own *intestine Divisions*, can invite the *French King* to set Foot upon *ENGLISH* or *SCOTCH* Ground; tho' we may also then expect, and with very good Reason, to be *Fellow-sufferers* upon the Upshot of such an *Invasion*: According to the manifest *Truth*, as well as politick *Insinuation*, of the **Proverb**.

This UNION therefore must needs be attended with the *happiest Consequences*; in strengthning, preserving, and enriching *Great Britain*: Since nothing else in all Probability can *secure* the *Subjects* of it in their *Lives* and *Fortunes*, upon a just Cause of *War*, against the circumventing Attempts of an aspiring *MONARCH*, who is still using his utmost *Efforts* to *enslave* both Nations. Nothing again can make us so *warlike* and *formidable* to our *Enemies*, either in our own *Bosoms*, or at
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St. GERMAINS, as this glorious UNION upon a right and a sure Bottom. It will certainly encrease our *Trade*; enhance our *Wealth*; and in all Likelihood, as it is reasonably to be hop'd, will bring us PEACE home at the last: Which would be a more valuable Blessing, a more acceptable Present, after so lone a WAR, than the best *Riches* of both the INDIES.

Such an UNION as *this* also, well begun, and as wisely accomplish'd between ENGLAND and SCOTLAND; if it could be carry'd on a little *farther* (with Submission) to an UNITY of Principles, Judgments, and Affections, (I do not say, *Judicature*, or Religion) it would be such a *Gordian Knot*, I believe, as LOUIS LE GRAND could never be able to *untie* with all his Cunning, and modern Policy; nor to *cut*, like ALEXANDER the Great, with all his Force and military Power.

But since the Church and State are *different* still in both Countries, as to some singular Matters, methinks the UNION is not yet so *absolute*, as to put us out of all Danger of little Tumults, Insurrections, or Discontentments on *one* side or *t'other*; for some *hot-headed* Persons are *restless*, and never *satisfy'd* with any but their own

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independent or distinguishing Schemes of GOVERNMENT: Tho' they may, to their great Discredit and Conviction, depend upon't, that this Proverb is true to the last Degree, in a politick, as well as a natural Sense; and that, if SCRUFFELL has a Cap, SKIDDAW knows full well of that.

However, in fine, all *Animosity and Prejudice* a-part, we cannot now be *jealous* any longer of one another's *Privileges*, or *PARLIAMENTS*. We cannot with common Reason entertain the least *Suspicion* of *encroaching* upon one another's *Rights*. We cannot in Justice suppose there will be any *intrenching* upon one another's *Trade*, or *Commerce*; after so fair, so faithful, and so happy an *UNION*. And therefore, 'tis to be hop'd, that the unfortunate *Business* of *DARIEN* will be *forgotten*; that the cruel *Affair* of *GLENCOW* will be *forgiven*; and that all exasperating *Reflexions*, or ignominious *Provocations*, will be wholly *forborn* on both sides for the future. Sure, People will now leave of *jesting* with the *UNION*; and not miscale it an *Onion*, to make our *Eyes water*; unless we are to *weep* for *Joy* at the happy *Completion* of it; being fully satisfy'd, that *Mirth*, and not *Sorrow*, *Suffering*, or *Trouble*,

ble, will be the *everlasting Consequence* of our UNITED BRITISH ESTABLISHMENT. In a Word, there can be no Necessity now for any more idle timorous *Talk* of the PICTS-WALL, or irritating *Tattle* about BOTHWELL BRIDGE. Those things, as well as the bloody *Murder* of the BISHOP of *St. Andrews*, must be quite obliterated; in order that GREAT BRITAIN may enjoy an *undisturb'd* UNION, and continue in a *profound Peace*, for fear of the *Proverb*.

FINIS.
